

Message Text

PAGE 01 WARSAW 02337 161826 Z

67

ACTION COA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 EA-11 COME-00 INT-08 IO-12 EB-11

CG-00 SCI-06 CEQ-02 EPA-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 ARA-11 FMC-04 JUSE-00 RSR-01 /164 W

----- 080954

R 151620 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3942

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 2337

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EX, EFIS, PBOR, XN

SUBJECT: POLITICAL PROBLEMS WITH NORTHWEST ATLANTIC
FISHERIES

REF:(A) STATE 086329; (B) STATE 085 11; (C) STATE 086290

1. SUMMARY. IN RESPONSE TO EMBASSY' S THREE PARALLEL DEMARCHES, POLISH VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND OFFICIAL IN CHARGE OF PREPARATIONS FOR LOS GAVE THEIR ASSURANCES THAT U. S. PROPOSALS WOULD BE STUDIED CAREFULLY. VICE MINISTER PIETRASZEK OF SHIPPING MINISTRY RESPONDED AT SOME LENGTH, STATING THAT (A) HE WAS STILL UNCLEAR AS TO HOW U. S. INTENDED ITS PROPOSAL SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT, (B) POLAND FAVORED TOTAL NATIONAL CATCH LIMITS FOR ALL FISH WITHIN ICNAF, (C) ICNAF IS EFFICIENT ORGANIZATION ABOUT WHOSE WORK TOO LITTLE IS KNOWN, AND (D) U. S. FISHING INDUSTRY WAS RELATIVELY SMALL AND LOCALIZED WHEREAS FOR POLAND FISHING INDUSTRY WAS VERY IMPORTANT FOR NATIONAL ECONOMY. HOWEVER, PIETRASZEK AGREED THAT SOME COMPROMISE MUST BE FOUND, AND PROPOSED
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 WARSAW 02337 161826 Z

THAT AMPLE TIME BE SET ASIDE DURING FORTHCOMING U. S. - POLISH BILATERAL FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS FOR FULL DISCUSSION OF THIS MATTER. END SUMMARY

2. THE AMBASSADOR SAW VICE FOREIGN MINISTER SPASOWSKI

ON MAY 11, HANDED HIM A COPY OF THE AIDE MEMOIRE, AND MADE TO HIM THE POINTS CONTAINED IN REF A. HE TOLD SPASOWSKI THAT PARALLEL REPRESENTATIONS WOULD BE MADE TO VICE MINISTER PIETRASZEK OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TO DR. DABROWA, CHIEF OF FOREIGN MINISTRY'S SECTION OF PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW (WHO IS IN CHARGE OF POLISH LOS PREPARATIONS). SPASOWSKI OFFERED NO SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT ON THE PRESENTATION, SAYING SIMPLY THAT THIS WAS A MATTER WHICH POLISH EXPERTS IN THE MINISTRY'S LEGAL AND TREATY DEPARTMENT (I. E., DABOWA) AND IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING WOULD HAVE TO STUDY. THE AMBASSADOR SAID THAT AMBASSADOR MCKERNAN'S PRESENCE IN WARSAW LATER IN MAY FOR FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS WOULD GIVE THE POLISH EXPERTS THE BEST OPPORTUNITY TO PURSUE THIS MATTER WITH THE USG'S MOST AUTHORITATIVE REPRESENTATIVE ON THE SUBJECT.

3. ON MAY 11, CHIEF OF ECONOMIC/ COMMERCIAL SECTION MET WITH VICE MINISTER ROMUALD PIETRASZEK, MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, AND STRESSED CONCERNS OF USG REGARDING ICNAF IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED REF A. COPIES OF AIDE- MEMIORE WERE GIVEN TO PIETRASZEK AND LEFT FOR MARIAN FILA, WHO AT PRESENT IS IN PERU WITH MINISTER OF SHIPPING.

4. IN RESPONSE, VICE MINISTER PIETRASZEK SAID GOP WAS WELL AWARE OF U. S. PROPOSAL MADE IN FALL OF 1972 TO LIMIT TOTAL FISHING EFFORT. HOWEVER, HE SAID, DESPITE DISCUSSION AT ROME ICNAF MEETING IN JANUARY, HE WAS STILL VERY UNCLEAR AS TO WHAT MEANS U. S. HAD IN MIND TO CARRY OUT ITS PROPOSAL. U. S. POSITION SEEMED VAGUE, EVEN TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED PRIOR TO ROME MEETING. HE AGREED THAT MORE SHOULD BE DONE TO CONSERVE FISHERIES RESOURCES, BUT SAID HE WAS VERY DUBIOUS ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR DOING SO BY ATTEMPTING TO LIMIT TOTAL FISHING EFFORT, EITHER BY PLACING

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 WARSAW 02337 161826 Z

RESTRICTIONS ON GEAR OR ON NUMBER OF SHIPS. FOR EXAMPLE, A SMALL NUMBER OF SHIPS COULD FISH 24 HOURS EACH DAY AND THEREBY NEGATE ATTEMPT TO LIMIT TOTAL EFFORT. INSTEAD, POLAND BELIEVED THAT BEST MEANS WAS TO ENFORCE TOTAL NATIONAL CATCH LIMITS FOR ALL SPECIES WITHIN ICNAF AREA. THIS METHOD. PIETRASZEK SAID, WAS FAR MORE EFFECTIVE, ASSUMING STATISTICAL RECORDS WERE RELIABLE. IF THERE WERE DOUBTS ON THIS SCORE, THE NUMBER OF INSPECTORS COULD BE INCREASED. POLAND SUBSCRIBED TO THE CONCEPT OF INSPECTION BOTH ON AND BELOW DECKS.

5. PIETRASZEK ALSO SAID HE BELIEVED PRESSURES TO EXTEND U. S. FISHERIES JURISDICTION OUT INTO ATLANTIC WOULD BE TOTALLY DISPROPORTIONATE TO SIZE OF U. S. FISHING INDUSTRY

AND WOULD HAVE VERY DAMAGING EFFECT ON PROSPECT FOR SATISFACTORY OUTCOME OF LOS CONFERENCE. HE FELT THAT, UP TO PRESENT IN LOS PREPARATORY SESSIONS, USG AND POLAND HAD BEEN IN AGREEMENT ON ALL BASIC ISSUES. VICE MINISTER SAID U. S. FISHING INDUSTRY, EXCEPT FOR LOBSTER FISHING, WAS LOCALIZED AND SMALL, BUT HE WAS AWARE IT WAS ABLE TO MAKE " PROPAGANDA " AND THAT THERE WAS A " FISHING LOBBY " IN CONGRESS. ON OTHER HAND, HE FELT ICNAF WAS VERY EFFICIENT ORGANIZATION, ABOUT WHICH THERE WAS NOT ENOUGH PUBLICITY. ICNAF, VICE MINISTER ASSERTED, HAD SHOWN ITSELF TO BE MOST ACCOMMODATING TO NEEDS OF COASTAL STATES BY REDUCING ALLOWABLE CATCHES WHEN CANADIAN OR U. S. INDUSTRIES WISHED TO EXPAND THEIR CATCH. POLAND AGREED THAT THE TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH FOR ALL ICNAF COUNTRIES COULD NOT BE INCREASED BY MORE THAN 5 PERCENT OR ELSE THERE WOULD BE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES FOR FISHERIES RESOURCES.

6. IN ADDITION TO THESE POINTS, PIETRASZEK SAID HE HOPED THE USG RECOGNIZED THAT THE FISHING INDUSTRY WAS VERY IMPORTANT TO THE ECONOMY OF POLAND. COUNTRY'S CATCH IN 1972 TOTALED ABOUT ONE- HALF MILLION TONS. AT SAME TIME, POLAND'S IMPORTS OF FISH (INCLUDING FISH MEAL) WERE RUNNING FIVE TO SIX TIMES THAT OF EXPORTS. IT WAS ESSENTIAL, VICE MINISTER SAID, TO DEVELOP FURTHER POLAND'S FISHING INDUSTRY.

7. PIETRASZEK SAID IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO FIND A
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PAGE 04 WARSAW 02337 161826 Z

COMPROMISE SOLUTION WITH THE U. S. HE LOOKED FORWARD TO DISCUSSING THIS MATTER IN DETAIL WITH AMBASSADOR MCKERNAN DURING THE RENEGOTIATION OF U. S. - POLISH BILATERAL FISHERIES AGREEMENT SCHEDULED TO BEGIN IN FEW DAYS, AND SUGGESTED THAT FULL ONE AND ONE- HALF DAYS BE SET ASIDE FOR THIS SUBJECT DURING THE BILATERALS.

8. IN MAY 14, CHIEF OF POLITICAL SECTION MET WITH DR. SLAWOMIR DABROWA, CHIEF OF PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW SECTION OF THE LEGAL AND TREATY DEPARTMENT IN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AND MADE DEMARCHE SPECIFICALLY DIRECTED TOWARD LOS ASPECT OF PROBLEM, LEAVING TALKING POINTS AND COPY OF AIDE- MEMOIRE. DABROWA INDICATED HE ALREADY WAS FAMILIAR WITH MATTERS U. S. HAD RAISED REGARDING JUNE ICNAF MEETING, AND SAID POLISH SIDE LOOKED FORWARD TO RECEIVING OUR PROPOSALS. HE HOPED GOP WOULD BE ABLE TO SUPPORT U. S. PROPOSALS IN ICNAF, BUT OBVIOUSLY NOTHING DEFINITE COULD BE SAID UNTIL THE U. S. PROPOSALS WERE CAREFULLY STUDIED, WHICH HE SAID WOULD BE DONE. DABROWA NOTED THAT POSITIONS OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS HAD BEEN QUITE SIMILAR REGARDING GENERAL PROBLEMS OF LOS. IT WAS IMPORTANT, HE SAID, THAT NO STATE TAKE PRECIPITATE ACTION IN THIS REGARD OR PRESENT THE LOS CONFERENCE WITH A

FAIT ACCOMPLI.

9. EMBASSY WILL DELIVER COPIES OF ADVANCE TEXT OF NOTE
BY U. S. ICNAF COMMISSIONERS (STATE 090315) AS SOON
AS POSSIBLE.
DAVIES

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Draft Date: 15 MAY 1973
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
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MOSCOW
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